

I am a licensed Amateur Radio operator and a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). I am opposed to the ARRL proposal to modify the current amateur radio licensing structure. The idea of a new code-free "Novice" license is a good one, however such a license should NOT be renewable. To renew the license removes incentive to individuals from upgrading and advancing the radio art. In addition, I also object to such a large portion of the HF spectrum be allocated to these new licensees (for the same reason as above). To have a large "Novice" class complacent with their HF access is not in the best interest of the Amateur Radio Service.

I am 100% opposed to automatically upgrading current Technician class licensees into the current General class as proposed by the ARRL. General class licensees should be required to show minimal proficiency in the use of Morse code (such as the current 5 wpm requirement). Current Technician class licensees should be "upgraded" to the new Novice license.

I am in favor of automatic upgrade of Advanced class licensees to Amateur Extra and I am obviously in favor of retaining the Morse code requirement for this license class.

Thank you,

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